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ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE

Provincial Operations Intelligence Bureau

SITUATION REPORT

DATE: 2022-02-06

FILE NAME: Project HENDON

Report#: 035-2022

Event: Freedom Convoy/BearHug 2.0

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☒	Third Party Rule	This information cannot be used, duplicated or disseminated without approval from the author.

The information in this report is current to 2022-02-06 at 1230 hours.

Owing to the current social protest landscape this Situation Report is organized into three main sections, each with specific information relevant to **Ottawa, Toronto, and Ontario**.

PREFACE: *The format of this Situation Report delineates between police information and information gathered through open sources. Media and social media information has been incorporated in this report towards developing all-source intelligence in support of providing greater context, and which may identify indicators, ideologies, and attitudes that could motivate subjects of interest and influence their behaviours.*

OTTAWA: POLICE INFORMATION & OBSERVATIONS

Items in this section are presented in order of seriousness of the potential threat:

The OPP continues to be engaged in this initiative with resources on the ground providing real-time updates and observations to the National Capital Region Command Centre – Combined Intelligence Group as events unfold.

- Police reporting indicates that there were no notable conflicts at yesterday's events in Ottawa.

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OTTAWA: OPEN SOURCE INFORMATION (Media and Social Media)

Items in this section are presented in order of seriousness of the potential threat:

- Social media messaging indicates that today's activities in Ottawa will include a church service at Parliament Hill at 1030 hours, led by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. A press conference is also scheduled for 1400 hours.

Open source queries indicate that [REDACTED] is a pastor at the New Creation Church in Montreal. He is reported to have told his congregation to ignore public health regulations regarding the pandemic and to resist government tyranny. [REDACTED] has also defied COVID-related public health regulations and organized or participated in demonstrations against them.

- Social media research has identified a video in which a group of individuals in a red GMC pick-up truck drive up to an unknown person, who is recording the incident, roll down the window and engage in a brief conversation. A male in the vehicle makes a comment about the person being "a broad", and someone else states "...die you fucking bitch" as the pick-up drives away. The vehicle had "Ottawa Convoy 2022" in white lettering on the rear passenger window. The license plate appears to be Ontario [REDACTED].

A license plate query indicates that the plate is on a 2006 Red GMC Sierra pick-up truck registered to [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) of 676 Empire Boulevard, Ottawa. Police database checks indicate that he has a history of contact with the Durham Regional Police Service dating between 2009 and 2021. In most occurrences his involvement is noted as "Other".

- Social media research indicates that [REDACTED] declared martial law in Canada as of 2022-02-05 at 1800 hours and directed the military to quell any civil unrest. Social media messaging indicates that she intends to remain in Ottawa indefinitely. It also indicates that she intends to be in the Parliament Hill gardens at 1300 hours for a ceremony honouring Canada's fallen soldiers.
- Social media indicates that a weekly convoy to Ottawa from the Lindsay Square Mall in Kawartha Lakes is planned for every Friday until vaccine mandates are lifted. Those who cannot attend Ottawa are urged to protest at local MPs offices or government buildings.
- Open source research indicates that the founder of the website "convoytraitors.com" (reported in Project HENDON Situation Report dated 2022-02-05) may be [REDACTED]. Further research identified an Instagram account for [REDACTED] ("wvsmith63").

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An Ontario driver's license query for Wynet Smith yielded one result for [REDACTED] of 2007-70 Landry Street in Ottawa. Her middle initial and year of birth correspond to the username for the noted Instagram page.

[REDACTED] appears to be opposed to the ongoing blockade. In addition to exposing businesses that are supporting the protestors, she appears to have requested images of trucks participating in the blockade, allegedly to compile a list of them. Her reason for compiling the list is unknown.

Open source research and analysis indicates that she may have set up the "convoytraitors" website after her Twitter page was restricted for unusual activity.

Police database queries for [REDACTED] yielded negative results.

TORONTO: POLICE INFORMATION & OBSERVATIONS

- The Toronto Police Service (TPS) reports that some protestors were testing the police perimeter on 2022-02-05.
- TPS reports [REDACTED] arrested at the protest yesterday. [REDACTED] was charged with assault with a weapon administer noxious substance; and mischief.

TORONTO: OPEN SOURCE INFORMATION (Media and Social Media)

- Nothing to note.

ONTARIO: POLICE INFORMATION & OBSERVATIONS

- Local support convoys and protests (see Event Schedule).

Ontario: OPEN SOURCE INFORMATION (Media and Social Media)

- Nothing to note.

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OTHER

- **GiveSendGo:** As of 2022-02-06 at 1231 hours, the amount raised for the new Freedom Convoy campaign on GiveSendGo was \$2.8M. The ADOPT A TRUCKER (WAR ROOM CANADA) campaign on the same platform stood at \$374,364.

Research indicates that GiveSendGo is a conservative evangelical site that was blocked by PayPal in 2021 because it allowed fundraising for individuals criminally charged as a result of their participation in the January 2021 insurrection at the US Capitol Building. The site has also hosted fundraising campaigns for extremist organizations such as THE PROUD BOYS, a designated terrorist entity in Canada.

***Analytical Comment:** Given the nature of some of the individuals and entities that have been allowed to fundraise on GiveSendGo, it is highly likely that any attempt to have the Ottawa blockade's fundraisers on this platform cancelled will be unsuccessful. GiveSendGo will almost certainly continue to be a source of substantial financial support to the ongoing blockade.*

- Media reporting indicates that former US President TRUMP has publicly stated that Facebook and "Big Tech" are attempting to destroy the Freedom Convoy. He justifies the ongoing Ottawa blockade as a peaceful protest and labels Prime Minister TRUDEAU as a "far left lunatic".¹

This message is echoed in the convoy's Daily Event and Safety Report for 2022-02-06: the author notes that the "progressive left" in "Big Tech and Big Government" - specifically the Ottawa Police Chief, the Ottawa Mayor, and GoFundMe – have engaged in a conspiracy against the blockade participants.

- Media reporting indicates that some members of the US Republican Party intend to investigate GoFundMe for its decision to cancel the fundraiser for the Ottawa blockade. The blockade has reportedly gained increasing support amongst US Republicans. Media reporting further indicates that Florida Governor Ron DeSANTIS has stated that GoFundMe has committed fraud by commandeering the donations and is working with the state's attorney general to investigate. The attorneys general of at least two other states have indicated that they will also be examining whether GoFundMe violated any state laws in their respective jurisdiction. These moves were reportedly supported publicly by Donald TRUMP Jr., US Congresswoman Marjorie TAYLOR-GREENE, and US Senator Ted CRUZ.

¹ Sandy Garossino, "Startling Trump Interference points to GoFundMe convoy campaign manipulation", National Observer, 2022-02-04, [Startling Trump interference points to GoFundMe convoy campaign manipulation | Canada's National Observer: News & Analysis](#) (accessed 2022-02-05)

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As reported in the Project HENDON Situation Report dated 2022-02-05, GoFundMe has stated that it will be automatically returning all donations made for the Freedom Convoy. DeSANTIS is alleged to have made his comments after GoFundMe announced the automatic reimbursement of all donations.

- Media reporting and social media messaging indicates that some federally-elected officials from the Conservative Party of Canada have visited the protest, had their pictures taken with protestor organizers, and made public statements of support for the blockade.

ASSESSMENT

The Ottawa blockade appears to have the financial and logistical support to remain in place for the long term.

The blockade appears to have significant support from ultra-conservative religious and political entities in the United States. It continues to receive considerable financing, with GiveSendGo now appearing to be the main platform.

It is possible that the de-platforming of the fundraiser from GoFundMe could encourage more donations, as some high-profile individuals appear to view the blockade participants as victims and GoFundMe as having acted criminally. The blockade has received positive publicity from controversial, but very influential, ultra-conservative public figures in the United States, including government officials, whose rhetoric could increase anti-government sentiment in Canada. This support is also certain to harden the resolve of the protestors in Ottawa; encourage them to further consolidate their positions there; and allow them to remain in place long term. It may also permit the funding of similar blockades elsewhere.

The apparent support from Canadian political figures is certain to further embolden those organizing and participating in the blockade, lending them credibility and validating their tactics. Any such validation may also motivate further blockades elsewhere in the country, such as those in Alberta.

Support for the blockade from public officials or other influential figures is likely to nurture and embolden ideologically motivated extremists in Canada. As long as the blockade remains in place, it will continue to attract individuals and groups with a range of different ideologies, agendas, and intentions hoping to capitalize on the protest for their own ends.

We can expect both organized and pop-up protests, convoys and solidarity actions locally for the foreseeable future. The presence of counter-demonstrations may increase the potential for conflict and is likely to strain local law enforcement resources.

Project HENDON has identified no concrete, specific, or credible threat with regard to the Freedom Convoy protest, Operation BearHug 2.0., or local solidarity protests. However, a lone actor or group of individuals could enact a threat with little or no warning.

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ANTICIPATED EVENT SCHEDULE – Support Convoys or Demonstrations

This list is derived from information provided by the OPP and its partners. Many of these events have been identified through social media.

The overall situation is fluid: these events may change and spontaneous events may occur without warning.

2022-02-06

- **Calgary-Ottawa: Freedom's Second Wave** – Departing 1000 hours, 11511 40 St SE, Calgary; travel through Regina; Winnipeg; Thunder Bay; Sault Ste. Marie; Ottawa
- **Waterloo: True North Strong and Free** – Town Square – convoy or on foot (1200 hours)
- **Huntsville: Anti-PHO Protest** - Huntsville Place Mall to Doe Lake return (1100 hours)
- **Hearst: Hearst Convoy Support Rally** – (1300 hours – no further detail)
- **Bracebridge: Anti-PHO protest** – Memorial Park, joined by Huntsville Convoy (1400 hours)
- **Echo Bay: Horse Convoy** – horses and riders local route in support of the Freedom Convoy (1400 hours)
- **Hanover-Walkerton: Freedom Convoy** driving circular local loop (1800 hours)
- **Bolton: United We Stand** – local demonstration (1300 hours)
- **Sarnia: Tractor Convoy** – Depart Wyoming (1000 hours) to HWY 402, park on the highway for 1 hour; over 100 tractors – may attempt to block Blue Water Bridge (unconfirmed)
- **North Bay: Convoy** – Pinewood Park (1430 hours)
- **Lambton: Convoy** - Reeves Corner Truck Stop (1000 hours) – expecting 200-300 vehicles and 50 farm tractors. Route through London, Exmouth – ball hockey game at City Hall – farm tractors to park and block HWY 402 1400-1600 hours; exit at Hwy 40, return to City Hall and disperse.
- **Windsor: Slow Roll 1** – Mic Mac Park (1000 hours)
- **Windsor: Slow Roll 2** – Co-An Park (0930 hours)
- **Windsor: Slow Roll Freedom Convoy** – Ambassador Bridge

2022-02-07

- **Hanover-Walkerton: Freedom Convoy** driving circular local loop (1800 hours)
- **Windsor: Local Convoy** - possible attempt to block the Ambassador Bridge (unconfirmed)

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Date:	06 February 2022	

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